2 AUG 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation of 1 August 1978

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        3. Gave the Lebanon briefing. Think this was very well received
and led to a stimulating discussion. When I described the matrix and
how much more complicated it was than I wanted, the comment was made
that there was no way even to understand [   ] these days on this   25X1
topic. I thereby suggested that the chart be taken away and used for
reference; it and the population distribution map were taken away.
I was able to go down the left-hand column of the matrix and discuss
each entry. The first question I was asked before I got into that was
what is the Phalange? Fortunate that was the first entry. I then
covered each of the yellow highlightings and the objectives and tactics.
Somehow that led to a discussion which made me skip the four directions
and go right into our conclusion that renewed fighting was highly likely
and why. I then went back and picked up the unlikelihood of negotiations,
partitions and cantons. I came back the second time around then to the
problem the Syrians face in judging the extent to which they can take
on the Christian militias without getting over their head with the
Israelis. Although the notebook had been closed, we went back and reopened
it to look at the chart with the Syrian military posture on it. This
also, I think, made a big impression with the symbols on the Golan indi-
cating the connection between that problem and the one in Lebanon.

E2 IMPDET
CL BY DCI

MORI/CDF

a. The comment was made that there was real concern at whether the UN force will be renewed by the participants. ✗

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c. Overall, I think this was a very stimulating and productive session and made a real contribution.

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4. I did not get to the Soviet missile complex or [   ]

STANSFIELD TURNER
Director

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